Artist Statement for Finding Gratitude Series, Terra Stone

On my first journey to Japan I leaned gift giving was an important especially when meeting someone new. Unfortunately, I didn’t realize it until too late. So I learned. On my next visit to Japan I took used champagne corks I had painted to give as gifts. It not only brought smiles to the faces of the receivers It also gave me such joy. To this day I continue to paint corks and I give them to people all over the world who show kindness to others.

One morning I was looking at my corks and wondered what would happen if I painted them on canvas and after hearing about painting in a series, I decided it would be fun to do so. The first one I painted, “Earth Unseen” is about how we ignore and move through our day forgetting about and taking for granted the Earth, the most important being in our lives. “Hijos”: means Sons in Spanish. The 3rd in this Series is “Nieta” which means granddaughter. There are 3 more painting what will be added to this series.The first 2 painting were just shown in the Oregon Society of Artist in July 2023 and I am grateful.

The bold colors are influenced by my Latinx heritage, India, Tibet, folk art, patterns, markets and the beauty of earths gifts.My desire is to create a story felt by the viewer that is both different and the same as a time in their own journey. A dialogue between the viewer and the art, an unfolding of a new understanding, an insight. The fine balance of life, as seen by the push and pull of paint, is a shared and an individual experience.